

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of facilitating access to documents, comprising:
2 determining a document tag associated with a document;
3 determining a content selection tag associated with a content reader; and
4 arranging for the content reader to receive information associated with the
5 document based on the document tag, the content selection tag, and at least one
6 entitlement rule.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein an entitlement rule includes:
2 an entitlement subject associated with a group of content readers.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein an entitlement rule includes:
2 an entitlement resource associated with at least one document.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein an entitlement rule includes:
2 an entitlement subject associated with a group of content readers;
3 an entitlement resource associated with at least one document; and
4 an entitlement action associated with the entitlement subject and the entitlement
5 resource.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the entitlement action enables a content reader
2 to perform at least one of the following actions: (i) receive an indication of a document,
3 (ii) receive a document, (iii) modify a document, and (iv) delete a document.

1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 determining the entitlement rule.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said determining is based on information
2 received from a content publisher.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein an entitlement rule is associated with at least
2 one entitlement tag.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein an entitlement tag is associated with at least
2 one entitlement tag domain.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the entitlement tag domain comprises a
2 single-rooted, hierarchical data structure.

1 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the entitlement tag domain comprises multi-
2 level domain, and at least one domain level comprises a plurality of entitlement tags.

1 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the entitlement tag is associated with at least
2 one of: (i) a content reader category, (ii) a content reader region, and (iii) a document
3 category.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein said arranging comprises transmitting an
2 indication of the document to the content reader.

1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein said arranging comprises transmitting the
2 document to the content reader.

1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the document tag is determined by retrieving
2 information from a database.

1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the documents tag is determined by receiving
2 information from a content publisher via a graphical user interface.

1 17. The method of claim 1, wherein the document tag comprises at least one of:
2 (i) a primary tag, and (ii) a secondary tag.

1 18. The method of claim 1, wherein the content selection tag is determined by
2 retrieving information from a database.

1 19. The method of claim 1, wherein content selection tag is determined by
2 receiving information from the content reader via a graphical user interface.

1 20. The method of claim 1, wherein said arranging is further based on a content
2 reader tag.

1 21. The method of claim 1, wherein the document comprises content to be
2 provided to a content reader device via a communication network.

1 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the communication network comprises at
2 least one of: (i) the Internet, (ii) an intranet, (iii) a public network, (iv) a public switched

3 telephone network, (v) a proprietary network, (vi) a wireless network, and (vii) a local
4 area network.

1 23. The method of claim 21, wherein the document comprises at least one of: (i)
2 text content, (ii) image content, (iii) audio content, and (iv) executable content.

1 24. The method of claim 21, wherein the content comprises at least one of: (i)
2 financial information, (ii) financial news, (iii) information about financial events, (iv)
3 investment information, and (v) market information.

1 25. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 transmitting the document to the content reader.

1 26. The method of claim 25, wherein said transmitting is performed via at least
2 one of: (i) a content controller, (ii) a content publisher, (iii) a content reader, (iv) a
3 personal computer, (v) a server, (vi) a portable computing device, (vii) a wireless
4 telephone, (viii) a Web site, and (ix) an electronic mail message.

1 27. A computer-implemented method of facilitating access to investment
2 research documents, comprising:
3 determining a document tag associated with an investment research document;
4 determining a content selection tag associated with a content reader;
5 determining an entitlement tag associated with at least one of the investment
6 research document, the document tag, the content reader, and a content reader tag; and
7 transmitting the investment research document to the content reader via a
8 communication network in accordance with the entitlement tag.

1 28. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a processor; and
3 a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions
4 adapted to be executed by said processor to:
5 determine a document tag associated with a document,
6 determine a content selection tag associated with a content reader, and
7 arrange for the content reader to receive information associated with the
8 document based on the document tag, the content selection tag, and at least one
9 entitlement rule.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein said storage device further stores at least
2 one of: (i) a document database, (ii) a content reader database, (iii) an entitlement rule
3 database, and (iv) an output database.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:
2 a communication device coupled to said processor and adapted to communicate
3 with at least one of: (i) a content publishing device, (ii) a document storage device, (iii) a
4 content controller, (iv) a content reader device, and (v) a payment device.

1 31. A medium storing instructions adapted to be executed by a processor to
2 perform a method of facilitating access to documents, said method comprising:
3 determining a document tag associated with a document;
4 determining a content selection tag associated with a content reader; and

5 arranging for the content reader to receive information associated with the
6 document based on the document tag, the content selection tag, and at least one
7 entitlement rule.

1 32. A method of facilitating access to documents, comprising:
2 receiving a document from a content publisher;
3 determining a document tag associated with the document; and
4 determining an entitlement rule associated with the document.

1 33. The method of claim 32, wherein said determining comprises:
2 receiving from the content publisher an indication of the entitlement rule.

1 34. The method of claim 32, wherein said determining comprises:
2 automatically determining the entitlement rule based on at least one of: (i) the
3 content publisher, (ii) a document tag associated with the document, and (iii) a content of
4 the document.

1 35. A method of facilitating access to documents, comprising:
2 determining a document tag associated with a document;
3 determining a content reader tag associated with a content reader; and
4 arranging for the content reader to receive information associated with the
5 document based on the document tag, the content reader tag, and at least one entitlement
6 rule.